

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

The broadcast flag will hamper my ability to archive programs or use small snippets of these programs in home movies.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices?

I want to have the future capability of recording broadcasts and sending them to my room so I can watch later or taking them in the car on a family vacation to entertain the kids. With digital technology I could send these across a wireless network to my in-car entertainment system or to my daughters laptop so she can take it to school to help with an oral report. The broadcast flag will prevent me from be able to view the broadcasts when and where I want to.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

If the broadcast flag is implemented, consumers will flock to older equipment that won't have the new restrictions, and the lack of sales for new devices will prevent new technologies from coming to market and becoming successful.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

The key to the future of this technology are open standards, so that I can capture content in one place and time yet view it in another place and time. This broadcast flag will limit the business viability of these new home entertainment products thus reducing the rate at which innovation is made.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

Hundreds of thousands of people that currently own digital video recorders today would be impacted if the existing technology was made obsolete by this new standard.

Other Comments:

I have all the capabilities that we are talking about today with 20-year-old technology. I can videotape a show, and send that tape to anyone I like. I can put it on my shelf and watch it at a later time. I can fast forward through commercials with any standard VCR. Why should we let broadcasters dictate how consumers use the images that WE ALLOW them to send to us over the publicly owned airwaves? If they don't like it, cease broadcasting.